GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:426
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL BY ONGC AND OIL
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of crude oil by Oil and Natural Gas corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) have remained more of less stagnant in the last 10 years and these companies have failed to meet the crude oil production targets during the Tenth Plan;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted to ascertain the poor performance of these companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to improve the performance of these companies and the steps taken to bridge the demand and supply gap?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) Yes, Sir. The major oil fields of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) are old and have crossed their plateau period of production and entered in the natural declining phase which is a common phenomenon in any Petroleum Upstream Industry.

(b)&(c): Production is monitored continuously by their boards as well as by the Ministry. Corrective measures are taken to overcome any variations.

(d) Several steps have been taken/are in hand to accelerate hydrocarbon exploration and production activities and to bridge the demand and supply gap in the country, which include the following:

(i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration for offer under various rounds of NELP

(ii) Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.

(iii) Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.

(iv) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.

(v) Arresting decline from ageing fields.

(vi) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.

(vii) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol, etc.